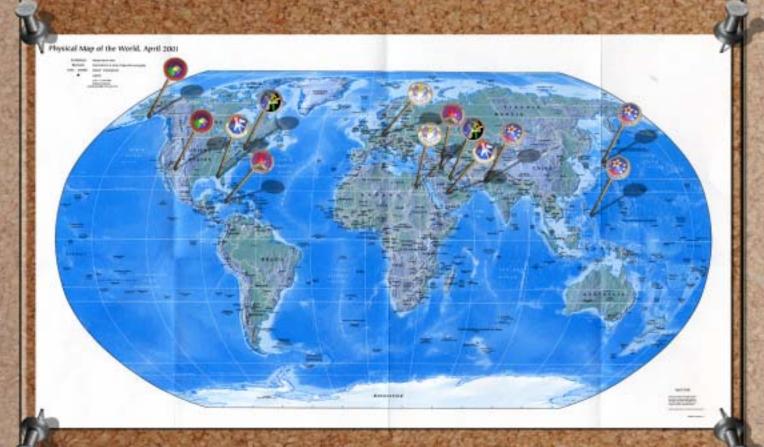
# EgglesEye

125th Fighter Wing, Florida Air National Guard 🦹

Fall 2003

Volume 3,6sue 3



A FORCE IN RESERVE

NOW A FORCE IN ACTION

WE'RE READY...WHAT'S NEXT?

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Cover: The global presence of the FLANG is represented by push pins on a globe, as units deploy worldwide to meet the growing needs of today's ever-changing military climate. Back cover: 125th Fighter Wing F-15's sit "locked and loaded" on Runway 13/31 at Jacksonville International Airport in the days just following 9/11.

# omnander

By Brig.Gen. Emmett R. Titshaw, Jr. Commander, Florida Air National Guard

#### Answering the call...again!

The events of Sept. 11 had a tremendous impact on our nation.

As individuals, those events and images will forever be etched into our memories.

But also, as an organization, we are changed forever.

This issue of the Eagle's Eye is a snapshot of that change over a two-year period.

It is recognition of the tremendous impact OUR people have had in the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT).

It conveys to the members of our organization, our retirees, and the citizens of Florida, some of what our people have contributed these last two years.

Several months ago, I asked our deployed commanders to

communicate to us in headquarters, through photographs and e-mails, some of what our people are accomplishing all over the world.

The response was tremendous and, at

the same time, touched my heart in a way that I wanted to share with you.

who we are today, and show the amazing strength of a free society willing to endure hardship in order to maintain and spread freedom around the world.

We have mobilized over 50 percent of our people in support of Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom. As a state, we have led employers.

the nation in participating in this fight.

The senior leaders of this organization are proud of this performance and grateful to our people for answering the call, once again.

Concurrently, with the GWOT, we are transforming the Air National Guard into a military organization more capable of defending our nation against new and emerging threats.

The ANG and especially the Florida Air National Guard are currently engaged in the transformation process to meet this challenge.

By clearly demonstrating our capabilities, we have proven that we are ready, reliable, and relevant to the defense needs of our nation.

We will continue to leverage those capabilities to ensure that we can respond to the nation's

What you see in this publication offers a glimpse into the future at some of the roles and missions we will be performing more often.

> requirements in our rapidly changing world.

What you see in this These photos say a lot about publication offers a glimpse into the future at some of the roles and missions we will be performing more often.

> You will also see a few examples of the many contributions that our people are making, and we know they couldn't make these contributions without the support of their families and



We should all understand that our families and employers are sacrificing significantly in this

I encourage each of you to take advantage of the support and recognition programs for our families and employers that are available in our state.

As commander of this great organization, allow me to say

> once again how very proud I am of our citizen-airmen who have answered the call to defend this nation at home and abroad.

You have maintained the rich heritage and spirit of the Minuteman

that has been our legacy since our nation's beginning.

You are indeed "Americans at their best."

We will work together to defeat terrorism and transform ourselves at the same time.

You have proven again that you are capable of that task.

I look forward to facing these challenges with you.

### How can you spread holiday cheer?

By Lt. Col. Steven E. Thompson 125th Chaplain

How are you contributing to our ultimate victory in our global war on terrorism? Maybe you fly, fuel, develop flight plans or fix jets. Maybe you build or repair runways or other base structures. Maybe you order or store parts and other supplies. Maybe you protect, feed or in other ways care for the people who are busy about all of these tasks. The bottom line is that it takes many hands to keep a plane in the air and all of us have our finger prints on every mission!

I hope you do something else that our Commander-in-Chief instructed...I hope you are living your life like proud, free Americans. I hope you are enjoying your family. I hope you are growing in your faith. I hope you are pursuing your goals confidently as you work through our current conflict competently. In short, I hope you are living your life to its fullest and not shelving it until better days.

Maybe you are wondering, "How can I find meaning and purpose in a world filled with uncertainty and without bearings?" Let me share with you an indispensable secret to experiencing life at its best.

Simply put, "It is better to give than receive." (Acts 20:35) You see, life has less to do with what you have and more to do with what you give. That is where Operation Christmas Stocking can help.

This year marks our 28th year of providing Christmas toys for abandoned, neglected and

abused children in foster care. Many other organizations help, but we are by far the largest and most dependable contributor to this need through the Department of Children and Family Services. Quite frankly, without you, December 25 would be just another day for nearly 1,000 children living in our communities.

Please let me to encourage you to generously exercise your soul again this year. Check with your Operation Christmas Stocking representative, choose a child or two, go shopping and feel your heart swell as you imagine the joy on the faces of those little ones as they unexpectedly find your gifts under their tree on Christmas morning.



The child/children you pick will never meet you or thank you personally. However, that is part of the blessing of Operation Christmas Stocking. Gifts that are given without the expectation of return are true gifts indeed. They are also the kind that, strange as it may seem, result in the greatest reward to the giver!

Want to have a lousy Christmas? Just keep your hands, wallet and heart in your pocket. Want to have a great Christmas? You know what to do. You've done it for 27 years. I am confident our 28th will be our best effort ever! God Bless You!

## Are you overlooking something?

By Ms. Beth Eifert 125th Family Readiness

There was this guy who went out for a swim in the ocean but went out too deep and began to drown.

A lifeguard spotted him and raced out to help, but when he approached the man declared, "I have faith in God, move on!"

Within seconds, a jet skier and a boater both stopped to

help, but the man stated,

"I have faith in God, move on!" Shortly thereafter, the man took his last gulp of air and drowned.

When he arrived in heaven, he said to God.

"Dear God, when I was alive, I tried to be a good person. I went to church, worked hard, gave to the poor and took care of my family, but in my hour of need you weren't there!"

God replied, "I don't understand, my child. I sent a lifeguard, a jet skier, a boater..."

This story humorously illustrates our tendency to overlook resources that exist to help us. One of those is our Family Readiness program.

Our role is to help you and your family prepare for military

Continued next page...

separations that, we recently learned, can happen very unexpectedly.

With this in mind, you should have received through the mail a refrigerator magnet listing our website (www.fangfamilies.org) and other helpful 125th FW contact points.

In addition, after the first of the year, you will also receive a telephone roster that lists the other families in your unit.

Please keep both of these in a handy place for quick reference.

Each telephone roster will need a "Lead Contact Point" (LCP) whose role will be to spread up-to-date information to others on the list during crisis or emergencies.

If our families are taken care of and kept informed, then our Guard members can focus on their jobs more safely and effectively, ensuring their timely re-

This role needs to be filled by a family member rather than a Guard member since our Guard members might be called to duty during the emergency.

This is your opportunity to do your part to help in the effort and to enable us to serve you better.

I sincerely hope you will contact me before the end of the year to volunteer to be the LCP for your list.

You can reach me by calling 904-741-7027, or email at family.readiness@fljack.ang.af.mil.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you.

Please let us know how we can improve.

### Family readiness raffle a success

The Family Readiness office conducted a raffle during the July UTA that raised \$471.00. Congratulations go to the following for nabbing the NASCAR memorabilia prizes: Lt. Col. James R. Higgins, Jr. SMSgt Donald M. Bergin SMSgt Guido D. Paternoster MSgt Yancy B. Bowen **MSgt John C. Cohee** MSgt Daryl G. Zoller TSgt Lucian H. Bailey, Jr. TSgt Michael A. Kilgore **TSgt Donald S. Knight** TSgt Robert E. Simpkins, Jr. TSgt William T. Wilkerson SSgt Jeremy R. Burgess SSgt Robert L. Okeefe

# UCI is over, 125th excels again!

By Lt. Col. Julia A. Kyrazis 125th Chief of Staff

The 125th Fighter Wing hosted 62 members of the Air Combat Command (ACC) Inspector General (IG) team Sept. 11-16, 2003 here.

The inspectors were not in town to socialize. They were here to scrutinize how we do business.

Despite the fact they were not here to "get to know us" in a good way-the back slapping chatty way—, they nevertheless got to know as an organization.

About every four years, all USAF units are programmed to receive a Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI). In keeping with this charter, almost four years from the date of our last UCI, ACC returned to give the wing another look.

A UCI team evaluates a unit's compliance with public law, Department of Defense, USAF, and ACC directives. Each functional area has

Compliance Standardization Requirements List (C&SRL)—a basic checklist containing a breakdown of how each area is supposed to operate via Critical Compliance (CCOs)—the **Objectives** inspectors use to conduct the inspection. Some areas must comply with ACC directives while others may have the more modified and thus (theoretically) more unit specific ANG C&SRLs.

When the inspection was over and the dust settled, the wing breathed a collective sigh of relief. The results confirmed that we do our job and we do it well. Out of 104 C&SRLs the inspectors used to evaluate the through corresponding 509 CCOs, the wing complied with 76 percent, had comments on 21 percent and did not comply with only three percent.

Two F-15 Guard units who recently completed a UCI received similar results but our wing had about 15 percent more reviewed. A inspection inherently does not reflect any positive results.

SSgt Paul D. Palanzi

If you comply, you comply and no one sees the effort you put forth to comply.

All written comments in the report highlight deficiencies.

The only tribute referencing excellence is the selection of superior performers and superior teams. The IG identified 48 individual superior performers and 20 superior teams. Congratulations to each and every one of you for your achievement.

Now that the inspection is over, the bad news is that we still have to correct all problems identified.

The good news is that compared to the number of problems we had to correct in 1999, it should take no time at all!

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# 290th Joint Commun

The 230 plus members of the 290th Joint Communications Support Squadron (JCSS)

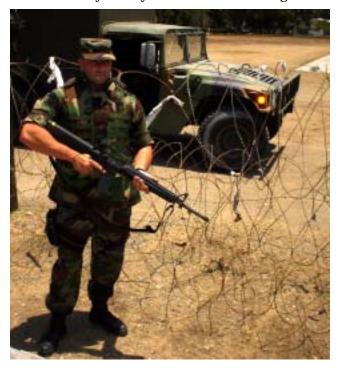
mobilized as a unit Sept. 24, 2001 for two years to support the global war on terror. The unit members, in groups and as individuals, deployed all over the world to locations in the Philippines, Japan, Pakistan, Turkey, Qatar, Kuwait, Cuba and several undisclosed locations. The 290th continues to support the GWOT with volunteers.

Their mission is to provide mission ready personnel and communications systems to support United States national security objectives during time of crisis and to contribute to the welfare of the State of Florida during peacetime.

They provide communications support for a Joint Task Force (JTF) or a Joint Special Operations Task Force (JSOTF), they provide the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) direct communications support of Unified Commands, Services, Defense Agencies and non-Defense Agencies and they provide the CJCS with direct communications support to foreign governments.

The 290JCSS is aligned under Joint Forces Command along with its parent active duty component, the Joint Communications Support Element.

Essentially, they can extend the global





information grid communication capabilities (non-secure and secure high capacity state of the art digital data, voice, video and radio) to joint force commanders and their subordinate organizations anywhere in the world allowing commanders and government leaders real time communications from any location; airborne, bare base or a fully functional building.

If a commander has a communication capability resident at his normal headquarters, the 290th can give him the same capability or better anywhere in the world.

# ications Support Squadron





CENTER: Technical Sgt. Joseph P. Bodo, III (on ladder) and Tech. Sgt. Carlos C. Oritz stop briefly as they climb a 125 feet radio tower in the Philippines. Bodo and Oritz were deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, December 2002 - March 2003.

BOTTOM LEFT: Major Norman J. Abdallah stands guard at Camp Navaro, Philippines in support of Operation Enduring Freedom .

TOP RIGHT: 290th members pose for a group photo after surviving Security Forces (SF) training while at Camp Navaro, Philippines in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, June 27, 2003.

**BOTTOM RIGHT: Staff Sgt. John E. Potts** III poses for a picture while villagers travel down a dirt road in a town south of Zamboanga, Philippines



Photos courtesy of the 114th Combat Communications Squadron



TOP LEFT: Master Sgt. Krista McKown, assisting with satcom antenna setup, carries an antenna petal for a satellite communications dish at Al Udeid AB, Qatar, March 2002.

BOTTOM LEFT: The 114th CBCS and 114 RANF successfully tracked the space shuttle Columbia at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, March 1, 2002.

# th Comba



Technical Sgt. Roger Mells and Chief Master Sgt. Leigh C. Dumas set up to Reaction Launch Vehicle test at Kodiak Island, Alaska, Feb. 2002.

After Sept. 11, 2001, the 114 CBCS was tasked to support Operation Enduring Freedom. Initially tasked with volunteer personnel providing communications planning support to US Central Command at MacDill AFB, the squadron involvement grew to 35 mobilized personnel for one year. Their duties included communications planning support, current operations and mobile communications support for the US CENTCOM combatant commander. Seven additional individuals from the 114th deployed for 181 days to Al Udeid AB, Qatar, providing hub satellite communications support. Additionally, for the past several years, the 114 CBCS and the 114th Range Flight have pioneered one of the most unique new missions in the Air

# nunications



he omni directional antenna mast in support of the Quick

National Guard, providing a mix of combat communicators and space launch personnel supporting the Ballistic Missile Range Safety Technology (BMRST). The BMRST is a mobile telemetry and command destruct system that can be deployed anywhere in the world to provide launch range tracking, safety and data collection. This system has deployed to Kodiak Island, Alaska supporting the Quick Reaction Launch Vehicle (QRLV) demonstration. The future of the 114th Combat Communications Squadron is very bright with a new and exciting mission that these individuals have worked hard to achieve.



ABOVE: Master Sgt. Krista McKown assists an airman with a compass at Al Udeid AB, Qatar, March, 2002.

BOTTOM: Brigadier Gen. Emmett R. Titshaw, Jr., Commander of the Florida Air National Guard, poses for a photo with guard members activated for service at HQ CENTCOM, MacDill AFB, Fla., Jan. 24, 2002. Titshaw visited with the 114th troops who provided integral support to the J-6 communications requirements for the CENTCOM AOR from Jan. 2, 2002 to Jan. 1, 2003. After 9/11, 114th members traveled all over the CENTCOM AOR (southwest Asia) providing crucial communication support to the theater commanders. Several members would accompany Gen. Tommy Franks on his private airplane to ensure his communication requirements were met at all times.



Photo by Master Sgt. George "Vic" Nieves



## South East Air Defense Sector

The 275 plus members, including roughly 60 traditional guardsmen mobilized immediately following the events of 9/11 to support Operation Noble Eagle, who comprise the Southeast Air Defense Sector (SEADS), located at Tyndall AFB, Fla., are responsible for the air defense of the southeastern United States.

SEADS is the busiest of the three sectors comprising the Continental United States North American Aerospace Defense Command Region (CONR).

Prior to 9/11, the sector focused on the NORAD mission looking externally, off the coast of the United States, for threats to our nations security.

Those threats, classified as manned or unmanned "air-breathing" vehicles approaching North America, ranged from errant Cuban fighters straying too close to our borders, to drug runners and the occasional aircraft flying inbound without a recorded flight plan.

Now all aircraft not only approaching but also operating within the United States are closely scrutinized.



Tech. Sgt. Billie R. Statom, Jr.

Since 9/11 the sector mission has evolved to looking "inward", reacting to the homeland defense requirements of United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) identifying aircraft of interest within the confines of the continental United States borders.

Coordination efforts with external agencies such as the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE),



National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the National Command Authority (NCA) are real time and ongoing. SEADS coordinates Combat Air Patrols (CAPS), a tactic normally used in war zone locations, to routinely protect metropolitan areas, Space Shuttle operations and members of the NCA.

Such a tactic would have been considered odd prior to 9/11 but now is an everyday occurrence in the United States.



Photos by Master Sgt. William H. Reimann



ABOVE: SEADS, headquarted at Tyndall AFB, Fla., is responsibe for defense of approximately 1,000,000 square miles of airspace and 3,000 miles of coastline extending from North Carolina to Texas.

CENTER: Tracking technicians like Staff Sgt. Nicole R. Gallegos are the first in line in identifying unknown aircraft or threats. Before 9/11 these threats range from errant Cuban fighters straying too close to our borders, to drug runners and the occasional aircraft flying inbound without a recorded flight plan. Now all aircraft not only approaching but also operating within the United States are closely scrutinized.

BELOW: Senior Master Sgt. Russell E. White (foreground) and Lt. Col. Michael J. Theobald (background) prepare food for a unit outing.



# 202nd Red Horse So

After Sept. 11, 2001, the 202nd RHS (Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron - Engineer) deployed to multiple CENTCOM AOR



locations in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

The 202nd members teamed with other "horse" units to form the 1st Expeditionary Red Horse Group (1st ERHG).

A Red Horse unit

is a combat engineer unit with approximately 400 personnel when fully staffed.

Red Horse units are the military's version of a large commercial construction company equipped and trained to provide a similar organic capability as Army engineers.

The members assess locations for needed repairs and they complete site surveys to determine the most expeditious method to improve Force Protection.

And, they fix things - lots of things;



Photos courtesy of the 202nd Red Horse Squadron

From left to right, Staff Sgt. Alden C. Morrow and Staff Sgt. Joseph B. Larsen, check the oil on a bulldozer that was used at Thumrait AB, Oman. The 202nd deployed to several locations in Southwest Asia as part of the 1st Expeditionary Red Horse Group (1st ERHG).



Members of the 1st Expeditionary Red Horse Group stand at the ribbon cutting of Baghdad International Airport. The group spent several months renovating the d

runways, taxiways, buildings, K-spans and generator facilities plus a great deal more.

A majority of the 202nd deployed to one location or another in the CENTCOM AOR: Doha, Qatar was the base of operations and HQ for the 1st ERHG.

# quadron



f the new and improved ilapidated airport.

Squadron members worked on projects in Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and Baghdad, Iraq before finally redeploying the last members to home station Sept. 2003.



ABOVE: Technical Sgt. Earl K. Tindall from the 202nd and other guard members from 203rd in Va. Beach, lay asphalt for the runway in air temperatures that exceed 120 degrees F. at Thumrait AB, Oman. The asphalt is in excess of 225 degrees at this point.

BELOW: The final product. They poured 49,000 metric tons of asphalt which produced a 10,000 foot runway.





# 159th Weather Flight

The 159th Weather Flight is located at Camp Blanding, near the town of S t a r k approximately 40 miles southwest of Jacksonville, Fla.

Although the flight consist of only 19 members, 159th Weather Flight's mission is vitally important to the war on terror. Their task is to train wartime ready, professional weather teams to provide the highest quality meteorological services to varying national, state and local requesters.

Their goal - to be



Technical Sgt. Jessica M. Dahlquist, far right, takes a 'photo break' from digging a hasty fighting position with members of the 159th Aviation Brigade Weather Team in Iraq.



Technical Sgt. Jessica M. Dahlquist, pictured far right, on the day she arrived at Camp Victory in Iraq with members of the 159th Aviation Brigade Weather **Team** 

the best weather flight recognized for mission accomplishment, initiative, adaptability, professional and personal development.

Since 9/11, the 159th has deployed six of its own to support the GWOT. Most recently and noteworthy, were the deployments of members for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Members deployed with the Army's 101st Airborne Division and the Army's 3rd Infantry Division to support combat operations in central and southern Iraq.

Additional troops deployed to northern Iraq to support classified missions in that region.

The 159th deployed members stateside as well to Shaw AFB, SC and Fort Campbell, Ky to support active duty weather requirements.

### Weather Readiness Training Center



The Weather Readiness Training Center is located at Camp Blanding, Florida.

The WRTC is currently undergoing a multi million-dollar construction project.

The project will provide the WRTC with a quality multi-faceted facility operated by a dedicated staff utilizing the latest technology that will provide every Air Force/ANG weather student with the necessary skills and abilities to effectively meet his/her wartime mission and survive.

The WRTC mission is to assist weather flights (WF) in accomplishing their Army support mission by providing basic and intermediate level training to all weather personnel.

Training provided by the WRTC is conducted primarily in a hands-on environment and includes performance of the weather flight mission, "field conditions" training, enhancement of technical skills, wartime survival, and various other elements of tactical weather support not covered in formal classroom instruction.

In the mid-1970s, all of the ANG weather flights were realigned to support a variety of Army units.

The weather flights were tasked to provide operational forecasts and climatological support to US Army units including Brigades, Divisions, Corps, and echelon above Corps.



Senior Amn.Warboritz, 208 Weather Flight, Minn., assumes the hasty fighting position while guarding the perimeter during a field training exercise as a part of the Tactical Weather Operations Course. During the course students are equipped with the Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System (MILES 2000), M-16A2 and the PRC 119 Manpack radios.



# 125th Figi

More than 1100 dedicated citizen airman man the 125th Fighter Wing, headquartered at Jacksonville International Airport, Fla. The Wing's primary mission is to provide fully trained wing personnel and combat ready F-15 air superiority fighters to the United States Air Force for contingency operations worldwide in the Aerospace Expeditionary Force (AEF) construct.

On a day-to-day basis the 125FW's F-15s are available to U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) through NORAD for the defense of the North American continent.

The unit has been very active in this capacity since 9/11. Dependent upon the current national threat level, when called upon, the 125th maintains a NORAD Air Defense Alert site at home-station and/or Homestead ARB, Fla. As guardians of America's skies, the 125th provides armed F-15 aircraft capable of intercepting, identifying,



Photo by Master Sgt. Lawrence J. Show



and, if necessary, destroying unknown aircraft that become a threat in or penetrate sovereign U.S. airspace. In the past, this threat has included Soviet Bear bombers. Cuban fighters and narcotics traffickers.

After the events of 9/11, the threat facing the U.S. is multidimensional and could include commercial aviation traffic.

The 125th has supported, and continues to support Operation NOBLE EAGLE in this capacity at various stages of 'alert' readiness.

To state that the 125th has been busy would be an understatement.

Like many other FLANG units, members of the 125th have supported military operations worldwide in the continuing effort



to rid the world of terrorists and rogue regimes.

Dozens of 125th troops, notably in the support roles of security forces, transportation, communication, civil engineering (fire fighting), services, finance and public affairs, have deployed to various locations in the United States and overseas to support Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Some locations include Germany, Turkey, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Jordon, Kuwait, Kyrgystan, Jordan and other locations in Southwest Asia.



Photo courtesy of 125th Security Forces

CENTER: Technical Sgt. Donald M. Schultz, Tech. Sgt. Gary D. McCance and Senior Amn. Charles D. Brodbeck struggle to move an F-100 engine for installation in a 125th F-15 during Exercise Agile Archer 02 at Key West Fla., September 2002.

BOTTOM LEFT: Technical Sgt. Adam Fischer of the 125 Communications Flight works on an FM radio antenna.

TOP RIGHT: Staff Sgt. Charles W. Wilkie, Jr., 125th Security Forces poses for a photo while deployed to Qatar in 2002.

**BOTTOM RIGHT: Members of the 125th Maintenance Group load missles** on one the the F-15s the day the U.S was attacked by al Qaeda September 11, 2001.



Photo by Master Sgt. Shaun W. Withers

### inbrief



### Chief's Words

Chief Master Sgt. Susan E. Shonka State Command Chief

The Florida Air National Guard response to the events of Sept. 11, 2001 was unlike anything I could remember in my career as a guardsman.

The shock, followed by the urge to do something in response to an enemy attack presented one of the greatest challenges that our guardsmen ever faced.

Overwhelmingly, the men and women in our great organization leaned forward and did what they do best. Florida Air National Guard members put their training into practice and recalled to memory the time they took their oath that states,

"I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the constitution of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic."

This oath suddenly took on a new life as each of us gained a better appreciation for what it really meant. As State Command Chief for the Florida Air National Guard, I have many opportunities to travel and meet with those of you who make up the heart and soul of the FLANG.

Everywhere I go I see why we score so well on inspections and are held in such high regard as we mobilize and deploy around the world.

feel from the troops is generally contagious and in many ways responsible for driving the leadership in our state to new levels. I have never been more proud to be a member of the FLANG! I am so honored to be a part of the leadership team in our state, particularly at this time in history.

Thomas Jefferson said, "For a nation that is free and intends to remain so, a well armed militia is its best defense." Jefferson would indeed be surprised at the capabilities of today's militia and the role we play in our nation's defense.

Thanks to all of you, we have proven beyond a doubt that we can rise to whatever level is necessary to protect and defend our homeland.

The Florida Air National Guard continues to thrive and excel in the shadow of 9/11 and will always represent America's

### **Security Issues:**

**Ground Transportation Security** 

Technical Sgt. Mark J. Perry 125th Antiterrorism Coordinator

Most criminal and terrorist acts against human targets occur away from a person's residence. Most are helped due to the person having established a predictable routine or habit.

The following information may The energy and excitement I provide you with the means to deter or prevent an unlawful incident occurring to you or your family.

Always be aware surroundings especially when entering or exiting a vehicle or when stopped at an intersection, stop light or stop sign.

Pay attention to other vehicles.

Watch for unusual activity or actions designed to block or slow you down.

Allow yourself an "out" - room to make an evasive move.

Always keep your vehicle doors locked and windows rolled up even when operating your vehicle.

Park your vehicle in a well lit area and as close to the building you will be entering as possible.

If checking into a hotel/motel unload your luggage at the hotel entrance and check in before parking your car.

Utilize valet parking if you have to park at a remote distance from the entrance especially at night.

You can significantly improve your chances of avoiding a personal encounter altogether with a criminal act by just remembering these three rules:

Keep a low profile. Be unpredictable. Remain vigilant.

Security begins with you!

### **Employer praises the 125th Fighter Wing after** attending luncheon held here August 15



An employer attending the ESGR luncheon takes his meal from the cafeteria line, August 2003.

By Mr. Douglas M. Wright Flagler County Emergency Services Director

As I was traveling from Flagler County to Jacksonville Aug. 15, 2003, my anticipation and expectation of what I perceived would occur at the ANG 125FW Employer Appreciation Day was not on the grand scale. My employee, Tech. Sgt.

Susanne M. Ottlein, had been limited in her explanation of what the unit had planned for the various employers of the FANG members. Ottlein is a valued member of the Flagler County Department of Emergency Services and it was clear to me from my experience at the Employer's Day that she is a skilled member of the 125th as well. However, I want to convey to the wing commander and his staff that I was extremely pleased with the warm reception, the comprehensive and informative briefing on unit activities, the great lunch that was provided, and the opportunity to see the F-15 fighter aircraft up close in a static display.

It was overwhelming.

These kinds of events make me proud of the military personnel and organization in this country and there will be no complaints from me to pay whatever taxes are needed to support the military and its mission. I will certainly not harbor the concept in the future that Air National Guard units do little to protect our country. Rather, I am now convinced that the 125th Fighter Wing is an integral part of the total military organization. Thanks for reinforcing for me what a privilege it is to be a citizen of the United States of America!

### Winners take home trophies from the 125th's 2nd annual Car Show

The 2nd annual car, truck and bike rally was conducted during the July UTA.

The following individuals claimed top honors for their modes of transportation:

> Import car/truck: Staff Sgt. Scott W. Bryant

Domestic car/truck: Lt. Col. Ronald G. Corey

Senior Master Sgt. William A. Hodges

Sport cycle: Master Sgt. Shaun W. Withers

Non Harley: Staff Sgt. William J. P. Floyd



Photo by Maj. Richard E. Bittne

**Specialty cycle:** Staff Sgt. Richard W. Verne

"Best of Show" (pictured above): Senior Amn. Brian A Myers



The 125th Medical Squadron deployed 25 personnel for EMEDS training Sept. 21-27, 2003 to Alpena, Minn. The training consists of field medical unit readiness training, ability to survive and operate training, along with specialized lectures, hands-on demonstrations and exercises that focus on the Air Reserve Component mission of Homeland Security.



Members of the 125th Security Forces Squadron participated in a combat exercise Sept. 14, 2003 that trained security forces airman in a variety of combat readiness exercises that prepare them for combat outside the perimeter of the flightline.

During the day-long exercise troops encountered a variety of scenarios to include: simulated chemical attacks, OPFOR (Opposing Forces)

and other tasks.

They also had to navigate from one point to another making stops to listen to briefings such as self aid and buddy car. Combat Arms (CATM) personnel acted as the aggressors, using small arms and other weaponry (with blanks) to make the exercise as realistic as possible.





**Robert Borland Drum** *March 26, 1955 - Aug. 28, 2003* 

#### We remember You

In the rising of the sun, and in it's going down, We remember you. In the blowing of the wind and in the chill of Winter, We remember you. In the opening of buds and in the warmth of Summer, We remember you. In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of Autumn, We remember you. In the beginning of the year and when it ends, We remeber you. As long as we live, you shall live too, for you are a part of us as, We remember You.

Courtesy: Mountcastle Funeral Home, Inc.

### In Memory

The 125th suffered the sudden loss of two of it's own in August with the death of Senior Airman Jeremy A. Levesque, 21, 125th Maintenance Squadron, of injuries received in an automobile accident Aug. 17 near Quantico, Virginia and Master Sgt. Robert B. Drum, 48, 125th Civil Engineering Squadron, of a probable heart attack, Aug. 28.

Levesque served with the 125th in Munitions for just a short time, joining the unit in mid 2001. He was activated for Operation Noble Eagle, after the events of 9/11, and served full-time with the wing until just recently. He was in the process of moving back home to the 192FW in Virginia. Levesque made an indelible impression with his coworkers during his tenure here. He was remembered in a service here the week following his death as a man who lived out his beliefs of a strong faith in God, dedicated to his country and a devotion for his family.

Drum was serving here in an Annual Training status helping his section prepare for the UCI when he was discovered deceased in his hotel room the morning of Aug. 28 by hotel personnel. Drum began his service with the FLANG in May 1995. He served with distinction and an undeniably unique sense of humor in the Civil Engineering Squadron as an Explosive Ordnance Disposal technician. Prior to his enlistment with the FLANG, Drum served with the United States Air Force, the Air Force Reserves and the Florida Army National Guard. Drum began his military service in March 1978. Drum made his home in Titusville, FL.

It is with a great appreciation for their lives that we remember their unique contributions to our FLANG family as we mourn together with their families and friends at their most sudden passing.



Jeremy Allen Levesque Jan. 20, 1982 - Aug. 17, 2003

## In the Spotlight

### Master Sgt. Mark Wilson

Master Sgt. Mark M. Wilson joined the 125th Fighter Wing of the Florida Air National Guard in 1980 after serving four years on active-duty in the Air Force. Wilson was initially assigned in Aerospace Ground Equipment section. Wilson's 20 plus years career has taken him to the 125th Maintenance Group budget office where he is the budget analyst for maintenance. Wilson is responsible for maintaining the fly and non-flying budget for the maintenance group.

During the recent UCI, Wilson's performance didn't go unnoticed by peers or inspectors. "Our supervisor informed us the inspectors' angle on looking at this office was by information they received that related back to us and results they saw. That would determine whether or not they needed to be in this office analyzing anything," said Wilson. "It was the customer support outside this office that kept them from coming in.

Wilson was drawn to a career in the Air Force by the excitement of a non traditional job and the benefits of military service. Now, 27 years later, he's still enjoying himself in FLANG.

When he isn't on duty, Wilson and his wife enjoy providing financial counseling through his church, to people seeking fiscal responsibility.



Photo by Master Sgt. Shaun W. Withe

Master Sgt. Wilson spends a good portion of his day on his computer analyzing financial data, generating reports and performing customer service.



Staff Sgt. Reichard performs an inspection of a gas mask during the normal conduct of her duties.

### Staff Sgt. Kimberly Reichard

Reichard came to the 125th by way of the New York Air National Guard where she served with the 174th Fighter Wing in the bio-environmental engineering section.

She joined the Air Guard originally for the educational benefits but also for the family tie. Her grandfather is a former member of the NYANG.

Now as a member of 125th Readiness Team, she is constantly achieving milestones toward her personal goals.

Reichard serves as drill status guardsman but still found time to spend numerous hours helping her section prepare for the recent UCI. The time paid off, the section excelled and Reichard was named a superior performer and earned an ACC IG coin for her efforts.

Reichard is pursuing a bachelors degree in health and science with a minor in exercise science at the University of North Florida. She plans to further her education with an additional bachelors degree in Nursing.

With an eye on an officer commission in the future, Reichard is motivated to complete her education requirements quickly. When she isn't studying or serving in the Guard, Reichard enjoys running and kickboxing.

### **Promotions**

To Colonel

Clark T. Rogers To Lt Colonel Eric L. Bloomfield To Major Kevin D. Humphrey Anthony D. Jones To Captain Dabney B. Timmerman, Jr. To Chief Master Sqt. Gerald W. Townsend To Senior Master Sqt. Michael L. Davis Alan V. Hearn Patricia D. Hinton Eric B. McClendon Robin R. Mott Guido D. Paternoster Lee An R. Steiner To Master Sqt. Lynn L. Boop Joanna M. Brand Brenda A. Cline Danny E. Cooper Tony A. Creach Gary D. Eldridge, II Michael A. Fuller Michael A. Hall Harry R. James William C. Lamb Nathaniel A. Legree, Jr. Virgil L. Lockhart, III Harley W. Moore David Smashum, III **Andrew S. Summers** To Technical Sqt. Misty R. Bookwalter Shandria S. Brown Shawn R. Bryant Lisa A. Couling Stephen A. Gardner Michael L. Grigsby Herbert J. Harrell, Jr. Jeremy S. Hayes Bruce N. Loeb, Jr. Travis L. Maple Jeffrey G. Miller Michael J. Nettles Terriss J. Nicholes Kemba R. Oates John P. Revels David M. Scarborough Alan B. Secrest Mary J. Sowerby Kevin G. Townsend Stephen B. Turner **Edward L. Wells** 

Saundra A. Wescott Leslie E. Zeilhofer To Staff Sqt. Scott J. Boever Kenneth L. Cole Aprvl L. Conner Gene M. Dixon Maurice V. Estares, III Frank P. Freiloher Kathleen I. Gilbert Natalie M. Hall Latonya F. Harris Cynthia I. Jensen Patrick A. Lockett Lawrence L. Parker, III Lori A. Pyper Rimando Poyaoan C. Megan Scharfenstine Sherri M. Stanfill Ryan C. Strayve Deborah E. Talbert Wanique C. Thomas Angela M. Walls **To Senior Airman Brian A. Encarnacion Daniel A. Flores** David M. Hickey William R. Hicks, IV Jeffrey S. Jacobs Holly M. Larimer Charlene E. Liberty
Justin M. O'Donoghue Johnathan R. Pavan Antwan L. Stewart Kelly D. Wills **To Airman First Class** Daniel A. Redmon

### Welcomes

Lt Col William W. Dodson Lt Col Joseph W. Mihalik Major Colby J. Kelsch Major David W. Lynch Major Michael C. Rouse Capt George E. Irvin, Jr. Capt Claudia T.Vinnedge **1Lt Thad T. Amundson SMSgt William J. Stuart** MSgt Alan V. Hearn TSgt Don A. Meyer TSgt Courtney A. Howard-Kirby SSgt Omar E.Aguilar SSgt Robert D. Ariatti SSgt James R. Barrett SSgt Luiz O. Bermudez-Alicea SSgt John A. Black SSgt Cy B. Britto SSgt Allen J. Fourtunia SSgt Annafe S. Johnson SSgt Gretchen D. King

SSgt David E. Moody SSgt Luis A. Rivera-Cruz SrA Tammy A. Balfanz SrA Warrick R. Blaylock SrA Brendan M. Crotty SrA William J. Felder SrA Melody L. Hannah SrA Christopher G. Horn SrA Eric H. Keith SrA Thomas E. Kielbasa SrA Leo H. Joachim. III SrA David P. McQuuary SrA Nevzat K. Ozbaltaci SrA Latoya Y. Ravizee SrA Lacie L. Summy SrA Earl C. Waye SrA Jerald W. Washington, Jr. A1C Juanita S. Benitez A1C Richard M. Dickson, III A1C Brian C. Fertig A1C Charles M. Hall **A1C Demetrius Jackson** A1C Travis S. Jennings A1C Sherry L. Kobes A1C Constance V. Lesher A1C Brittani J. Navarre A1C Matthew E. Obborn A1C Emilio H. Rodriguez A1C Terry S. Turbes A1C Christopher G. Wessler A1C Robert A. Wike, Jr. A1C Homer A. Wilkerson A1C Jairus L. Wilkerson A1C Matthew J. Williams AMN Roger M. Mussone

### **Farewells**

Col Jere Cook Major Richard D. Entwistle Major Kathie I. Wyant SMSgt Carroll A. Raines **MSgt Gregory Griffin MSgt Steven Healis** MSgt Roger L. Horton MSgt Mary I. Jefferson-Rouche MSgt Steven D. McCoy **MSgt Randall F. Merritt MSqt Armando L. Rovirabloise** MSqt Jonathan K. Tucker MSgt James H. Wise, Jr. MSqt Jeffrey D. Woodward TSgt Albert W. Howard SSgt Angelo Caravano SSqt Robert W. Dixon

